

Article 34

CLAIMS:

1. Use of a protein preparation comprising platelet derived proteins or fractions thereof having an isoelectric point (pI) above about 6.5 and preferably within the range of above 6.5 to about 9.5, for the preparation of an injectable reagent for diagnosis of schizophrenia in an individual by determining a Delayed Type Hypersensitivity (DTH) reaction in said individual following injection of said reagent to the individual.
2. A kit for use in diagnosis of schizophrenia in an individual by detection of DTH reaction in said individual, comprising:
 - (i) a protein or a fraction thereof prepared from human platelets, said proteins or fractions thereof having a pI of above about 6.5;
 - (ii) a chart and/or pictures for guidance of the manner of scoring said DTH reaction; and
 - (iii) instructions for use.
3. A kit in accordance with Claim 6, wherein the proteins or fractions thereof have a pI within the range of above 6.5 to about 9.5.
4. A kit in accordance with Claims 6 or 7, wherein the proteins or fractions thereof are prepared from heterologous platelets obtained from a number of individuals other than the individual to be tested.
5. A kit in accordance with Claims 6 or 7, wherein the proteins or fractions thereof are prepared from autologous platelets obtained from the individual to be tested.
6. A method for the preparation of a reagent for use in diagnosis of schizophrenia in an individual by detecting a DTH reaction in said individual following injection of said reagent to the individual, comprising:
 - (a) obtaining blood samples from a number of individuals, preparing a pool from said samples and collecting platelets therefrom;

- (b) preparing a protein fraction from said platelet preparation comprising proteins or fractions thereof having a pI of above about 6.5.

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A diagnostic method for determining schizophrenia in a subject comprising:

- (a) obtaining a preparation comprising, as an active component, platelet derived proteins or fractions thereof having a pI above about 6.5;
- (b) injecting said preparation into a subject; and
- (c) examining the subject for the occurrence of delayed type hypersensitivity reaction at the site of the injection, a positive result being a reaction above that which is observed in non-schizophrenic subjects, indicating that the subject has a high likelihood of being schizophrenic.

8. A diagnostic method for determining schizophrenia in a subject comprising:

- (a) obtaining a blood sample from a number of schizophrenic and/or non schizophrenic individuals other than the tested subject and collecting platelets therefrom;
- (b) preparing a protein fraction from said platelet separation comprising proteins or fractions thereof having a pI of above about 6.5;
- (c) injecting said protein preparation into a subject; and
- (d) examining the subject for the occurrence of a delayed type hypersensitivity reaction at the site of the injection, a positive result being a reaction above that which is observed in non-schizophrenic subjects, indicating that the subject has a high likelihood of being schizophrenic.

9. A diagnostic method for determining schizophrenia in a subject comprising:

- (a) obtaining a blood sample from an individual and collecting platelets therefrom;
- (b) collecting proteins or fractions thereof from said platelet sample, said proteins or fractions having a pI of above about 6.5.
- (c) injecting said collected proteins or fractions thereof to the tested individual; and
- (d) examining the subject for the occurrence of delayed type hypersensitivity reaction at the site of the injection, a positive result being a reaction above that which is observed in non-schizophrenic subjects, indicating that the subject has a high likelihood of being schizophrenic.

a 10. The method of ^{Claim 6} ~~any one of the previous claims~~, wherein said proteins or fractions thereof have a pI within the range of above 6.5 to about 9.5.

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